Appl. No. 10/045,948 Response to the Notice of Non-Compliant Amendment of May 18, 2004 Mailed July 17, 2004

Closure

Applicant has made an earnest attempt to place the above referenced application in condition for allowance and action toward that end is respectfully requested. Should the examiner have any further observations or comments, he is invited to contact the undersigned for resolution.

Respectfully submitted,

Douglas E. McKinkey, Jr. Reg. No. 40,280

PO Box 202 Richland, WA 99352 Voice (509) 628-0809 Fax (509) 628-2307

The undersigned hereby certifies that the forgoing response to the Notice of Non-Compliant Amendment of May 18, 2004 (5 pages), PTO Form PTO/SB/17 (fee sheet, 1 page, two copies), and return postcard are being deposited with the United States Postal Service as First Class Mail, postage prepaid, in an envelope addressed to

Mail Stop Non-Fee Amendment Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

on the date set forth below.

Douglas E. McKinley, Jr.

Reg. No. 40,280